

1-1 By: Shapiro, et al. S.B. No. 156
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed December 19, 2006; January 29, 2007,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Human
1-4 Services; April 16, 2007, reported adversely, with favorable
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0;
1-6 April 16, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 156 By: Deuell

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to a competitive grant program to fund nurse-family
1-11 partnership programs in certain communities in this state.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by
1-14 adding Subchapter M to read as follows:

1-15 SUBCHAPTER M. NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM

1-16 Sec. 531.451. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

1-17 (1) "Competitive grant program" means the
1-18 nurse-family partnership competitive grant program established
1-19 under this subchapter.

1-20 (2) "Partnership program" means a nurse-family
1-21 partnership program.

1-22 Sec. 531.452. ESTABLISHMENT OF NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP
1-23 COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The commission shall establish a
1-24 nurse-family partnership competitive grant program through which
1-25 the commission will award grants for the implementation of
1-26 nurse-family partnership programs, or the expansion of existing
1-27 programs, and for the operation of those programs for a period of
1-28 not less than two years.

1-29 (b) The commission shall award grants under the program to
1-30 applicants, including the YWCA of Metropolitan Dallas, in a manner
1-31 that ensures that the partnership programs collectively:

1-32 (1) operate in multiple communities; and

1-33 (2) provide program services to approximately 2,000
1-34 families.

1-35 Sec. 531.453. PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS. A
1-36 partnership program funded through a grant awarded under this
1-37 subchapter must:

1-38 (1) strictly adhere to the program model developed by
1-39 the Nurse-Family Partnership National Service Office, including
1-40 any clinical, programmatic, and data collection requirements of
1-41 that model;

1-42 (2) require that registered nurses regularly visit the
1-43 homes of low-income, first-time mothers participating in the
1-44 program to provide services designed to:

1-45 (A) improve pregnancy outcomes;

1-46 (B) improve child health and development;

1-47 (C) improve family economic self-sufficiency and
1-48 stability; and

1-49 (D) reduce the incidence of child abuse and
1-50 neglect; and

1-51 (3) require that the regular nurse visits described by
1-52 Subdivision (2) begin not later than a mother's 28th week of
1-53 gestation and end when her child reaches two years of age.

1-54 Sec. 531.454. APPLICATION. (a) A public or private
1-55 entity, including a county, municipality, or other political
1-56 subdivision of this state, may apply for a grant under this
1-57 subchapter.

1-58 (b) To apply for a grant, an applicant must submit a written
1-59 application to the commission on a form prescribed by the
1-60 commission in consultation with the Nurse-Family Partnership
1-61 National Service Office.

1-62 (c) The application prescribed by the commission must:

1-63 (1) require the applicant to provide data on the

2-1 number of low-income, first-time mothers residing in the community
 2-2 in which the applicant proposes to operate or expand a partnership
 2-3 program and provide a description of existing services available to
 2-4 those mothers;

2-5 (2) describe the ongoing monitoring and evaluation
 2-6 process to which a grant recipient is subject under Section
 2-7 531.459, including the recipient's obligation to collect and
 2-8 provide information requested by the commission under Section
 2-9 531.459(c); and

2-10 (3) require the applicant to provide other relevant
 2-11 information as determined by the commission.

2-12 Sec. 531.455. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS IN AWARDING
 2-13 GRANTS. In addition to the factors described by Sections
 2-14 531.452(b) and 531.453, in determining whether to award a grant to
 2-15 an applicant under this subchapter, the commission shall consider:

2-16 (1) the demonstrated need for a partnership program in
 2-17 the community in which the applicant proposes to operate or expand
 2-18 the program, which may be determined by considering:

2-19 (A) the poverty rate, the crime rate, the number
 2-20 of births to Medicaid recipients, the rate of poor birth outcomes,
 2-21 and the incidence of child abuse and neglect during a prescribed
 2-22 period in the community; and

2-23 (B) the need to enhance school readiness in the
 2-24 community;

2-25 (2) the applicant's ability to participate in ongoing
 2-26 monitoring and performance evaluations under Section 531.459,
 2-27 including the applicant's ability to collect and provide
 2-28 information requested by the commission under Section 531.459(c);

2-29 (3) the applicant's ability to adhere to the
 2-30 partnership program standards adopted under Section 531.456;

2-31 (4) the applicant's ability to develop broad-based
 2-32 community support for implementing or expanding a partnership
 2-33 program, as applicable; and

2-34 (5) the applicant's history of developing and
 2-35 sustaining innovative, high-quality programs that meet the needs of
 2-36 families and communities.

2-37 Sec. 531.456. PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM STANDARDS. The executive
 2-38 commissioner, with the assistance of the Nurse-Family Partnership
 2-39 National Service Office, shall adopt standards for the partnership
 2-40 programs funded under this subchapter. The standards must adhere
 2-41 to the Nurse-Family Partnership National Service Office program
 2-42 model standards and guidelines that were developed in multiple,
 2-43 randomized clinical trials and have been tested and replicated in
 2-44 multiple communities.

2-45 Sec. 531.457. USE OF AWARDED GRANT FUNDS. The grant funds
 2-46 awarded under this subchapter may be used only to cover costs
 2-47 related to implementing or expanding and operating a partnership
 2-48 program, including costs related to:

2-49 (1) administering the program;
 2-50 (2) training and managing registered nurses who
 2-51 participate in the program;

2-52 (3) paying the salaries and expenses of registered
 2-53 nurses who participate in the program;

2-54 (4) paying for facilities and equipment for the
 2-55 program; and

2-56 (5) paying for services provided by the Nurse-Family
 2-57 Partnership National Service Office to ensure a grant recipient
 2-58 adheres to the organization's program model.

2-59 Sec. 531.458. STATE NURSE CONSULTANT. Using money
 2-60 appropriated for the competitive grant program, the commission
 2-61 shall contract with a state nurse consultant to assist grant
 2-62 recipients with implementing or expanding and operating the
 2-63 partnership programs in the applicable communities.

2-64 Sec. 531.459. PROGRAM MONITORING AND EVALUATION; ANNUAL
 2-65 COMMITTEE REPORTS. (a) The commission, with the assistance of the
 2-66 Nurse-Family Partnership National Service Office, shall:

2-67 (1) adopt performance indicators that are designed to
 2-68 measure a grant recipient's performance with respect to the
 2-69 partnership program standards adopted by the commission under

3-1 Section 531.456;
3-2 (2) use the performance indicators to continuously
3-3 monitor and formally evaluate on an annual basis the performance of
3-4 each grant recipient; and
3-5 (3) prepare and submit an annual report, not later
3-6 than December 1 of each year, to the Senate Health and Human
3-7 Services Committee, or its successor, and the House Human Services
3-8 Committee, or its successor, regarding the performance of each
3-9 grant recipient during the preceding state fiscal year with respect
3-10 to providing partnership program services.

3-11 (b) The report required under Subsection (a)(3) must
3-12 include:

3-13 (1) the number of low-income, first-time mothers to
3-14 whom each grant recipient provided partnership program services;

3-15 (2) the extent to which each grant recipient made
3-16 regular visits to mothers during the period described by Section
3-17 531.453(3); and

3-18 (3) the extent to which each grant recipient adhered
3-19 to the Nurse-Family Partnership National Service Office's program
3-20 model, including the extent to which registered nurses:

3-21 (A) conducted home visitations comparable in
3-22 frequency, duration, and content to those delivered in Nurse-Family
3-23 Partnership National Service Office clinical trials; and

3-24 (B) assessed the health and well-being of mothers
3-25 and children participating in the partnership programs in
3-26 accordance with indicators of maternal, child, and family health
3-27 defined by the commission in consultation with the Nurse-Family
3-28 Partnership National Service Office.

3-29 (c) On request, each grant recipient shall timely collect
3-30 and provide data and any other information required by the
3-31 commission to monitor and evaluate the recipient or to prepare the
3-32 report required by this section.

3-33 Sec. 531.460. COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING. (a) The
3-34 commission shall actively seek and apply for any available federal
3-35 funds, including federal Medicaid and Temporary Assistance for
3-36 Needy Families (TANF) funds, to assist in financing the competitive
3-37 grant program established under this subchapter.

3-38 (b) The commission may use appropriated funds from the state
3-39 government and may accept gifts, donations, and grants of money
3-40 from the federal government, local governments, private
3-41 corporations, or other persons to assist in financing the
3-42 competitive grant program.

3-43 SECTION 2. (a) As required by Subsection (a), Section
3-44 531.460, Government Code, as added by this Act, the Health and Human
3-45 Services Commission shall, as soon as practicable, apply for any
3-46 available federal funds to assist in financing the nurse-family
3-47 partnership competitive grant program under Subchapter M, Chapter
3-48 531, Government Code, as added by this Act.

3-49 (b) Not later than December 1, 2007, the Health and Human
3-50 Services Commission shall establish and implement the nurse-family
3-51 partnership competitive grant program required by Subchapter M,
3-52 Chapter 531, Government Code, as added by this Act.

3-53 (c) Not later than December 1, 2008, the Health and Human
3-54 Services Commission shall submit the initial annual report required
3-55 by Subdivision (3), Subsection (a), Section 531.459, Government
3-56 Code, as added by this Act.

3-57 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

3-58 * * * * *